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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/658,198	09/08/2000	Toshikatsu Hama	SCET 17.735	3447

26304 7590 06/17/2003

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EXAMINER

PHAN, THANH S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2841

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/658,198

Applicant(s)

HAMA ET AL.

Examiner

Thanh S Phan

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 and 19-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 19-26 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 8.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 8-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 8, it is unclear if the first and second surface recited in claim 8 are the same "plate surface" recited in line 3 of claim 1. Applicant should clarify the intended structure since there is no prior recitation of a first and a second surface.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000.

Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-17; as best understood; are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brandenburg et al. [6,180,045].

Brandenburg et al. disclose an electromagnetic shielding plate [130] for shielding electromagnetic radiation by covering at least a part of an object comprising: a conductive covering plate having a plate surface and an edge; and a plurality of connecting strips/notches provided along the edge of said covering plate, said connecting strips/notches extending along said plate surface and downwardly from said edge and terminating in tip portions that conduct electromagnetic radiation from said conductive covering plate to a ground; wherein each of the connecting strips/notches of the plurality is bent so that the tip portion thereof projects partially outwardly from said plate surface of the covering plate and makes resilient surface contact with a ground [figure 3, column 3 lines 43-60].

Regarding claim 2. Brandenburg et al. disclose the electromagnetic shielding plate further comprising a supporting portion [132] for establishing a space between said electromagnetic shielding plate and said object.

Regarding claims 3 and 10. Brandenburg et al. disclose wherein said supporting portion comprises a connecting portion for connecting said electromagnetic shielding plate with said object [figure 3].

Regarding claims 4,6,7 12,13, and 15-16. Brandenburg et al. disclose wherein said covering plate and said connecting strip are integrally formed [figure 3].

Regarding claims 5, 11 and 14. Brandenburg et al. disclose wherein said connecting strips projecting from said covering plate are higher than said supporting portion [figure 3].

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 19-26 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Neither the cited reference or the reference cited discloses or suggests an electromagnetic shielding structure comprising: an object including a circuit element mounted thereon; and an electromagnetic shielding plate for shielding electromagnetic radiation by covering at least a part: of said object; said object comprising a band-shaped ground pattern surrounding an area on which electromagnetic shielding is to be provided on a surface where said circuit element is mounted; said electromagnetic shielding plates comprising a covering plate formed of a conductive plate and a plurality of connecting strips provided along the edge of said covering plate; wherein said connecting strips are bent in such a manner that the chip portions thereof project from the surface of said covering plate; and said electromagnetic shielding plate and said object are kept in a positional relationship wherein the tips of said connecting strips are in press contact with said ground pattern.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Lin et al. [6,188,578].

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh S Phan whose telephone number is 703-305-0069. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David S Martin can be reached on 703-308-3121. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7721 for regular communications and 703-308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

tsp
June 11, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DLM', is positioned above the printed name and title of the supervisor.

DAVID MARTIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800